

WI-292
Jesterville School
Bivalve vicinity
Private

c. 1870-80

The two-story, three-bay bracketed frame dwelling that stands along Jesterville Road southeast of Bivalve is commonly known as the Dennis Banks house, although is served in another capacity as the Jesterville School in its more distant past. Featuring unusual architectural features for the immediate region, the rectangular structure is covered by a medium pitched hip roof which is accented with corner pilaster and a eave of sawn brackets. Dated to around 1870-80, the building is similar in form and detail to Fairmount Academy (S-115) in Upper Fairmount, Somerset County, which was erected around the same time. Large size nine-over-nine sash windows help to flood the first floor rooms with light.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Jesterville School

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-292

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
 Education
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance
 1870-1930
4. Resource Type(s): Former School

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-292

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Jesterville School

and/or common Dennis Banks House

2. Location

street & number West side of Jesterville Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Bivalve ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: none

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-292

Condition

☐ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☒ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Formerly the Jesterville School and commonly known as the Dennis Banks house, the two-story, three-bay by two-bay frame house stands on the west side of Jesterville Road north of the intersection with Muddy Hole Road in the vicinity of Bivalve, Wicomico County, Maryland. The hip roofed dwelling faces southwest with a hip roof oriented on an northwest/southeast axis.

Dating around 1870-80, the two-story, three-bay, double-pile frame house rests on a low brick foundation, and the exterior is clad with asbestos shingles. The low pitched hip roof is covered with asphalt shingles.

The south (main) facade is three-bay elevation with a side entrance and flanking nine-over-six sash windows framed by plain surrounds. The front door is a replacement. The second floor is lighted by three six-over-six sash windows. The layer of asbestos shingles covers plain weatherboards. The corners of the house are trimmed by pilasters which stretch from the foundation to the top of the second floor. The base of the hip roof is finished with boxed cornice trimmed with sawn brackets. Rising through the center of the house is a narrow brick stove chimney.

The southeast side of the house is pierced by three nine-over-six sash windows on the first floor and three six-over-six sash on the second floor. The base of the roof is finished with a bracketed box cornice.

The northeast (rear) wall is marked nine-over-six sash windows on the first floor and six-over-six sash on the second floor. The other finishes remain consistent with the front of the house.

The interior is divided into a four room plan with the turned baluster staircase rising in the northeast room. A stout square newel post is topped by a ball finial, and a series of turned balusters support a molded handrail. A few four-panel doors remain in house, which has been significantly vandalized. Four- to five-inch wide pine floors remain on the second floor. Breaks in the plaster wall finish reveal sawn lath.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-292

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

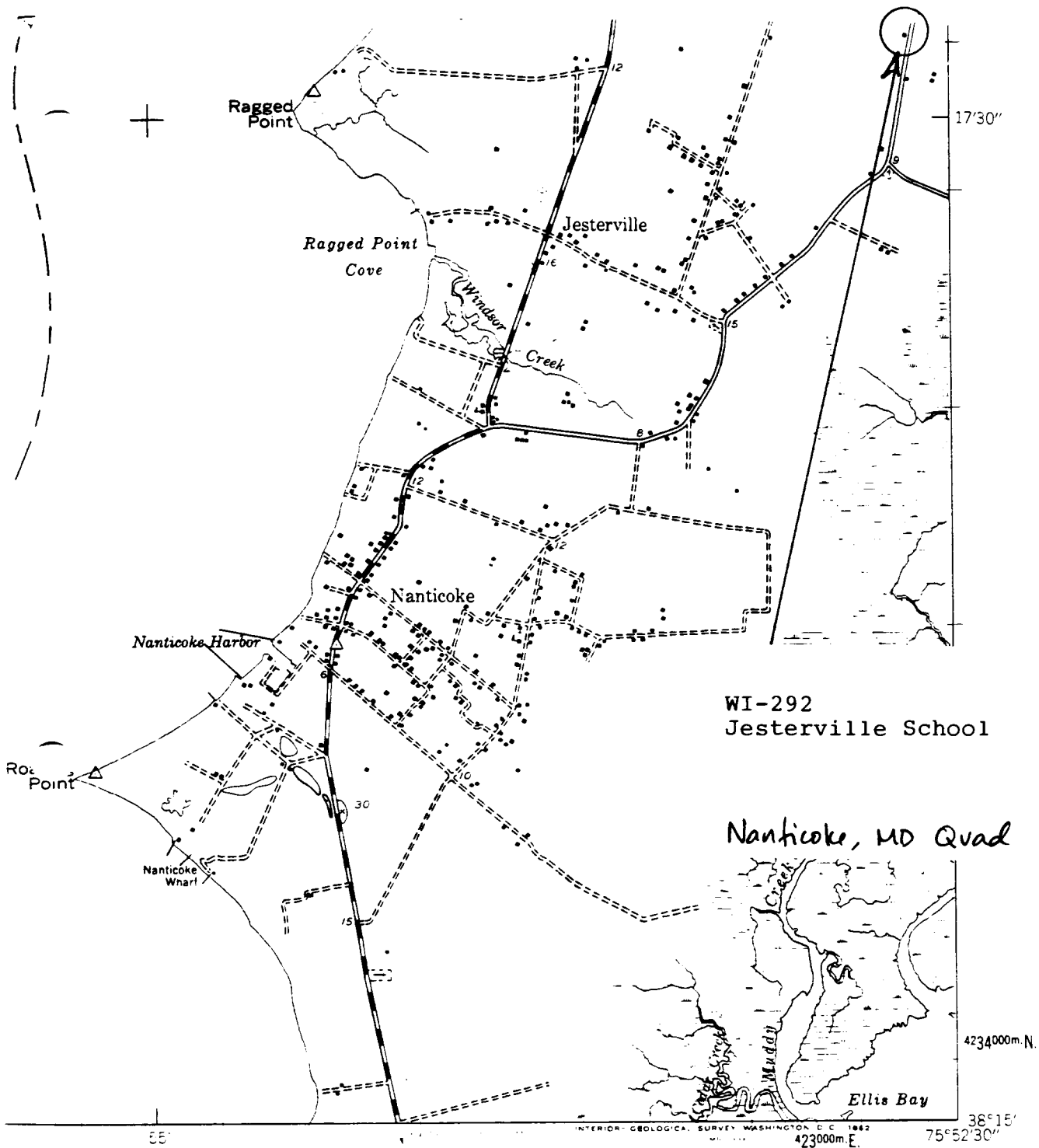
Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The two-story, three-bay bracketed frame dwelling that stands along Jesterville Road southeast of Bivalve is commonly known as the Dennis Banks house, although is served in another capacity as the Jesterville School in its more distant past. Featuring unusual architectural features for the immediate region, the rectangular structure is covered by a medium pitched hip roof which is accented with corner pilaster and a eave of sawn brackets. Dated to around 1870-80, the building is similar in form and detail to Fairmount Academy (S-115) in Upper Fairmount, Somerset County, which was erected around the same time. Large size nine-over-nine sash windows help to flood the first floor rooms with light.

The building deserves listing in *Category B*, since the structure has been abandoned and it has fallen into deteriorated condition.



WI-292
Jesterville School

Nanticoke, MD Quad 1942

INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WASHINGTON D.C. 1942
423000m.E.

4234000m.N.

38°15'
75°52'30"

(MOVIE)

1 MILE
3000 FEET
METER

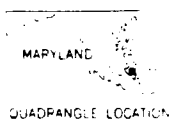
ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Medium duty

Light duty

Unimproved dirt

State Route



NANTICOKE, MD.
SW/4 NANTICOKE 15' QUADRANGLE
N3815—W7552.5/7.5

1942

QUEST





